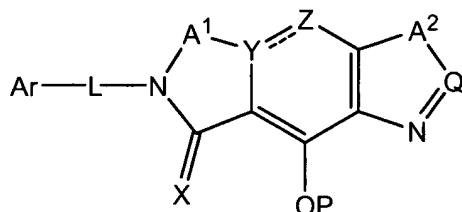


Amendments to the Specification

Please insert the paragraph beginning on the following page of this response on page 17 in the original specification before line 6.

In one aspect, the invention is a compound having the structure:

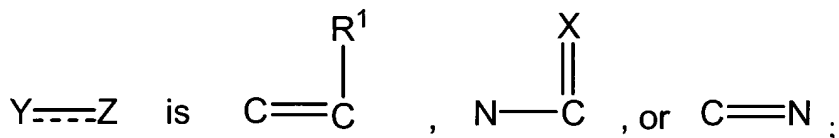


or a salt thereof;

wherein:

A^1 and A^2 are independently selected from O, S, NR, $C(R^2)_2$, CR^2OR , $CR^2OC(=O)R$, $C(=O)$, $C(=S)$, CR^2SR , $C(=NR)$, $C(R^2)_2-C(R^3)_2$, $C(R^2)=C(R^3)$, $NR-C(R^3)_2$, $N=C(R^3)$, $N=N$, SO_2-NR , $C(=O)C(R^3)_2$, $C(=O)NR$, $C(R^2)_2-C(R^3)_2-C(R^3)_2$, $C(R^2)=C(R^3)-C(R^3)_2$, $C(R^2)C(=O)NR$, $C(R^2)C(=S)NR$, $C(R^2)=N-C(R^3)_2$, $C(R^2)=N-NR$, and $N=C(R^3)-NR$;

Q is N, ^+NR , or CR^4 ;



L is selected from a bond, O, S, S-S, $S(=O)$, $S(=O)_2$, $S(=O)_2NR$, NR, N-OR, C_1-C_{12} alkylene, C_1-C_{12} substituted alkylene, C_2-C_{12} alkenylene, C_2-C_{12} substituted alkenylene, C_2-C_{12} alkynylene, C_2-C_{12} substituted alkynylene, $C(=O)NH$, $OC(=O)NH$, $NHC(=O)NH$, $C(=O)$, $C(=O)NH(CH_2)_n$, or $(CH_2CH_2O)_n$, where n may be 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

X is selected from O, S, NH, NR, N-OR, N-NR₂, N-CR₂OR and N-CR₂NR₂;

Ar is selected from C_3-C_{12} carbocycle, C_3-C_{12} substituted carbocycle, C_6-C_{20} aryl, C_6-C_{20} substituted aryl, C_2-C_{20} heteroaryl, and C_2-C_{20} substituted heteroaryl;

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 and R^4 are each independently selected from H, F, Cl, Br, I, OH, $-NH_2$, $-NH_3^+$, $-NHR$, $-NR_2$, $-NR_3^+$, C_1-C_8 alkylhalide, carboxylate, sulfate, sulfamate, sulfonate, 5-7 membered ring sultam, C_1-C_8 alkylsulfonate, C_1-C_8 alkylamino, 4-dialkylaminopyridinium, C_1-C_8 alkylhydroxyl, C_1-C_8 alkylthiol, $-SO_2R$, $-SO_2Ar$, $-SOAr$, $-SAr$, $-SO_2NR_2$, $-SOR$, $-CO_2R$, $-C(=O)NR_2$, 5-7 membered ring lactam, 5-7 membered ring lactone, $-CN$, $-N_3$, $-NO_2$, C_1-C_8 alkoxy, C_1-C_8 trifluoroalkyl, C_1-C_8 alkyl, C_1-C_8 substituted alkyl, C_3-C_{12} carbocycle,

C₃-C₁₂ substituted carbocycle, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₆-C₂₀ substituted aryl, C₂-C₂₀ heteroaryl, and C₂-C₂₀ substituted heteroaryl, polyethyleneoxy, phosphonate, phosphate, and a prodrug moiety; when taken together on a single carbon, two R² or two R³ may form a spiro ring;

R is independently selected from H, C₁-C₈ alkyl, C₁-C₈ substituted alkyl, C₆-C₂₀ aryl, C₆-C₂₀ substituted aryl, C₂-C₂₀ heteroaryl, and C₂-C₂₀ substituted heteroaryl, polyethyleneoxy, phosphonate, phosphate, and a prodrug; and

P is a protecting group selected from benzyldryl (CHPh₂), trialkylsilyl (R₃Si), 2-trimethylsiloxyethyl, alkoxymethyl (CH₂OR), and ester (C(=O)R).